

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A remote control method of remote controlling a robot controller through a universal communication network by a terminal disposed remote from the robot controller, comprising:

enabling the terminal to remote control the robot controller by a functional connecting device which is disposed on a side of the robot controller, the functional connecting device being capable of enabling the terminal to remote control the robot controller through the universal communication network; and

performing a predetermined operation on the robot controller by the terminal.

2. The remote control method according to claim 1, wherein the step of enabling the terminal to remote control the robot controller is executed by sending a connect program from the functional connecting device to the terminal in response to a request made by the terminal.

3. The remote control method according to claim 1 further comprising a step of converting information of a format sent from the terminal to the robot controller into information of another format that can be processed by the robot controller by the functional connecting device.

4. The remote control method according to claim 1, wherein the step of performing the predetermined operation is executed by retrieving desired information from the robot controller through the functional connecting device by the terminal.

5. The remote control method according to claim 1, wherein operations performed by the terminal on the robot controller are limited.

6. The remote control method according to claim 4, wherein information retrievable from the robot controller by the terminal is limited.

7. A remote control system for remote controlling a robot controller through a universal communication network

by a terminal disposed remote from the robot controller, comprising:

a functional connecting device disposed on a side of the robot controller, the functional connecting device being capable of enabling the terminal to remote control the robot controller through the universal communication network, the terminal performing a predetermined operation on the robot controller.

8. The remote control system according to claim 7, wherein the functional connecting device is provided with a connect program, the connect program being sent to the terminal in response to a request made by the terminal.

9. The remote control system according to claim 7, wherein the functional connecting device is capable of converting information of a format sent from the terminal to the robot controller into information of another format that can be processed by the robot controller.

10. The remote control system according to claim 7, wherein the terminal retrieves desired information from the robot controller through the functional connecting device by the predetermined operation.

11. The remote control system according to claim 7, wherein operations performed by the terminal on the robot controller are limited.

12. The remote control system according to claim 10, wherein information retrievable from the robot controller by the terminal is limited.

13. The remote control system according to claim 7, wherein the functional connecting device is included in the robot controller.